Guidance for EDExpress Combination System Users— Direct Loan Origination Fee Percentage and Direct Loan External Add/Change Files (DIEA or DIEC)

EDExpress calculates anticipated disbursements based on the Origination Fee Percentage value provided in Field 24 (position 195-199) for each record in the External Add/Change file. The Loan Fee Percentage value established in EDExpress' COD School setup (Direct Loan) is only used in the anticipated disbursement calculation if Field 24 is blank for the student(s) in the External Add/Change file.

Combination System users should note that the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System will edit loan data to ensure the correct Origination Fee Percentage is being used, based on the first disbursement date and according to changes implemented in the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (the HERA), Pub. L. 109-171. EDExpress does not compare or edit the Origination Fee Percentage against the first disbursement date or changes related to the HERA during the import of an External Add/Change file.

Therefore, when creating and importing External Add/Change files using either EDExpress 2006-2007, Release 5.0 or EDExpress 2007-2008, Release 3.0, Combination System users should follow the guidance provided below:

- If the student's first disbursement date is on or after July 1, 2007, the Origination Fee Percentage value for the student, provided in Field 24 of the External Add/Change file, should be 02500.
- If the student's first disbursement date is before July 1, 2007, the Origination Fee Percentage value for the student, provided in Field 24 of the External Add/Change file, should be 03000.
- When Field 24 of the External Add/Change file is blank, EDExpress uses the value for the Loan Fee Percentage in COD School setup (Direct Loan). If the Sub/Unsub Loan Fee Percentage in EDExpress is defined as 2.500 in COD School setup, the First Disbursement Anticipated Date in Field 57 (position 443-450) of the External Add/Change file must be on or after July 1, 2007 (20070701). If the Sub/Unsub Loan Fee Percentage in EDExpress is defined as 3.000 in COD School setup, the First Disbursement Anticipated Date in Field 57 must be prior to July 1, 2007.
- The Origination Fee Percentage for PLUS and Grad PLUS loans remains at 4.0%.

Direct Loan External Add/Change Record Layouts

The External Add/Change record layout for 2007-2008 can be found in Volume III, Section 3 of the 2007-2008 COD Technical Reference, available in the "Technical References and Guides" section of the Federal Student Aid Download (FSAdownload) Web site (http://FSAdownload.ed.gov) or by clicking the following link: http://fsadownload.ed.gov/Repository/CODTechRef0708May/0708CODVol3Sec3ComboRecordLayoutsMay07.pdf.

The External Add/Change record layout for 2006-2007 can be found in Volume III, Section 3 of the 2006-2007 COD Technical Reference, available in the "Technical References and Guides" section of the FSAdownload Web site (http://FSAdownload.ed.gov) or by clicking the following link: http://fsadownload.ed.gov/Repository/CODTechRef0607Apr/0607CODVol3Sec3ComboRecordLayoutApril07.pdf.

Note: In EDExpress, the import dialog box selections are labeled "Loan Data - External Add" and "Loan Data - External Change." The COD Technical Reference, Volume III, refers to these files as the "Direct Loan External Import Loan Origination Add File" and "Direct Loan External Import Change Record."

If You Have Questions

If you have any questions regarding EDExpress or importing external files, please contact CPS/SAIG Technical Support at 800/330-5947 (TDD/TTY 800/511-5806) or by e-mail at CPSSAIG@ed.gov.